MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY
J. L. BOYD, Custodian
P. O. BOX 392 -:- CLINTON, MISS.

59TH. ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

Mount Pisgah Baptist Association.

FOR THE YEAR 1896.

—HELD WITH—

MOUNT SINAI CHURCH.

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST PRINT.

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N. L. Clarke, Chairma
R. K. Cleavland,
J. S. Hollingsworth,
N. B. Simmons,
R. N. Woodruff.

Report of the Committee on State of Religion and Fraternal Correspondence with the Churches.

God's mercies are still abounding toward our beloved Association. The Mount Pisgah is in her annual session for 1895, which is her 59th, and this time meets with the Mount Sinai Church, Neshoba county, Miss.

We, your committee are glad to say that the session this year has been of much interest, and compares favorably with sessions of the body for years past. The church has been hearty in our reception, and cheerful, and liberal in our support. Each seemed to vie with the others in making the comers feel at home. Food and lodging were abundant, for man and beast. We have been blessed again with fair weather for our gathering; congregations have been large and orderly and the preaching considered sound, able and instructive; clearly scriptural and Baptistic. The collections on Lord's day for Missions was considered liberal, for the times.

Two churches failed to report and one was dismissed by letter and one new church received, Poplar, Newton county Miss. There is no word of any confusion among the churches, nor is there any evidence of a departure from the faith and usages so long held dear by the churches composing the Association, except a slight tendency to introduce instrumental music which we deplore. All of our churches have had preaching and seem in a prosperous condition. Baptisms have been encouragingly numerous

There is evidence still that the pastors and membership that compose our churches seem determined to stand fast in the liberty with which Christ has made them free. We urge the pastors to watch, for error is cunning, and insinuating, and is doing harm in our country, chiefly in the form of Campbellism, Martinism and the holiness delusion. These errors should be studied by our pastors and their pernicious aims defeated. Our pedo-Baptist neighbors seem bold in urging their erronious views, on baptism. The Lord having given us the truth in his word, we should be bold in declaring it and firm in sustaining it. Our Savior said "Watch and pray;" there is reason for this admonition. Tendencies among the Baptist make this manifest. Notice the new organizations, North and South, by the women, by the young people, the children. Are these Scriptural? Are they Baptistic? Are they safe? They are neither Scriptural, Baptistic nor safe. They are human, and should be opposed.

We urge our people to investigate and to become apt in the faith of the gospel, which is the faith of the Baptist. Why should we go to schools or to seminaries to learn the gospel, or to learn to preach it? To the law and to the testimony should ever be our position. For nearly sixty years our Association has worked grandly, under a gospel-raised ministry, a ministry raised in the churches under other pastors. This is Christ's plan. We do not need the seminary, for it is dangerous. Let us encourage education generally and raise and train our preachers at home. Thank God for a pure Gospel.

N. L. Clarke, Chairman,
R. K. Cleavland,
J. S. Hollingsworth,
N. B. Simmons,
R. N. Woodruff.
N. H. Moore,
J. D. Amis,
W. T. Cooper,
J. M. Townsend,
D. M. Stroud.

(Committee.)

PROCEEDINGS

—OF THE—

Mount Pisgah Baptist Association.

—IN HER—

FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

—FOR THE YEAR 1896.—

MOUNT SINAI BAPTIST CHURCH,
NESHOBA COUNTY, MISS., Sept. 19, 1896.

According to the appointment made by the Association in her last annual session, Elder N. L. Clarke, at 11 o'clock, preached the introductory sermon to a large and appreciative audience: Text, 1st. Corinthians, 15th. chapter, 58 verse: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." He first gave a brief but interesting history of the Association from the year 1843, the time of the division of the Baptists in this Association, when the anti-Missionary element went out from the body. The sermon was able and instructive, showing that the labors of God's people had been abundantly blessed of Him, and admonishing, to stand fast in, and contend in love, for our distinctive Scriptural principles. An hour was spent in partaking of the refreshments furnished by the church and surrounding community, which were abundant.

SATURDAY--Afternoon.

After singing an appropriate hymn, prayer was offered, led by Elder G. W. Breland. The moderator then convened the Association in her 59th annual session. The following committees were then appointed:

To Read Letters—J. A. Lake, W. J. McMullen, J. O. Crawford.

Finance—D. T. Chapman, A. H. Armstrong, J. W. McMullen.

Elder W. P. Vaughn was appointed to preach at the stand and did so at the usual hour. Letters were then read from the churches and the names of delegates enrolled.

All the churches were represented by delegation or letter except two, Concord, Jasper county and New Hope, Scott county.

On motion and second, the Association proceeded to the selection of officers by acclamation, Elder N. L. Clarke was re-elected Moderator, J. E. Chapman Clerk and J. E. Graham Treasurer, all of whom accepted with thanks for the renewed confidence and respect

In accordance with the rules of decorum, visiting ministers were invited to seats in the body. Petitionary letters were then

called for, when a letter was received from Poplar church asking for membership. She was duely received and her delegates seated.

Correspondence from sister associations was called for when the following brethren were received from their respective associations: Choctaw Association, Elder R. N. Woodruff; Oktibeha, Elder G. W. Breland. The hand of fellowship was extended by the Moderator. The following committees were then appointed by the Moderator.

Preaching—Pastor and Deacons of the Mount Siani church with Wm. Graham, A. W. W. Grafton, J. J. Ingram.

Queries and Requests—J. E. Graham, T I. Wells, John White, W. J. Bruner.

Missions—T. I. Wells, A. M. Smith, R. A. Laird, J. O. Crawford, H. O. White.

Nominations—D. T. Chapman, J. H. Germany, James Simmons, F. F. Pearson, C. C. White, M. H. Esom.

Sabath Schools—L. B Fancher, T M. Gould, T. J. Rhodes, A. M. Nicholson

Temperance—W. H. Willis, R. K. Cleavland, A. F. Linley, G. W. Breland.

Publications—J. W. Arnold, W. P. Vaughn, Wm. Graham, J. P. Pace.

Education—J. F. Chapman, J. A. Johnston, J. C. McBeth,

State of Religion—R. K. Cleveland, J. S. Hollingsworth, N. B. Hammons, R. N. Woodruff, N. H. Monroe, J. D. Amis, W. T. Cooper, G. M. Townsend, D M. Stroud.

By motion the Moderator was made chairman of the committee on State of Religion

Committee on Preaching made the following report. Elder T. G. Ward, at Dixon, Saturday night, R. K. Cleveland to conduct prayer meeting Sunday Morning, T. I. Wells, at 11 o'clock, J. E. Chapman in the afternoon. Adjourned until 9 o'clock Monday morning.

LORD'S DAY SERVICES.

At 10 o'clock Sunday morning exercises were opened, according to the report of the committee on preaching, by Elder R. K. Cleveland and was continued until the regular hour of preaching. At 11 o'clock Elder T. I. Wells, the regular appointee, preached the Annual Sermon on Missions: Text; Acts 8th. chapter, 35 verse, "Then Phillip opened his mouth, and began at the same Scripture and preached unto him Jesus" The sermon was considered able and instructive and proved to be very interesting. Setting forth Baptist positions in a plain and forcible manner. A public collection was taken up at the close of the service amounting to $38.50.

At 2:3 o'clock J. E. Chapman occupied the stand. Text: Romans 5th. chapter 1st verse. "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The congregation was large and attentive, and it is hoped that much good may result from the services.

The preaching committee made the additional report: To preach at Dixon, T. I. Wells; at Johnson School-house, W. J. Bruner, Monday morning at the stand J. O. Crawford.

MONDAY--Morning.

According to adjournment, the Association convened at 9 o'clock Monday morning After singing Elder Wm. Yarbrough offered prayer after which the Moderator called the Association to order and business was resumed. The roll was called the delegates answering or were excused

At the request of the chair, the clerk read the objects and powers of the Association, with the rules of decorum

Renewed the call for letters from churches None heard from.

Renewed call for correspondenc from sister Associations when the following brethren presented themselves and were duly received, the Moderator extending the hand of fellowship. Harmony, J. A. Tnomas; Choctaw, T. L. Moore; Pearl Valley, T. G Ward. The following named brethren were appointed as corresponding messengers by this association: To Harmony, C. C White, A. W. W. Grafton: To Salem, J. O. Crawford. D. M. Stroud New Liberty, N L. Clarke. J. O. Crawford: Springfield. Joe Rushing, J. A. Gardner: Choctaw, L. B. Fancher: Pearl Valley. J. W. Arnold, W. H. Willis: Bethlehem, A. F Lindley, W. F. Buckley.

Resolved, That corresponding messengers be authorized to write their own letters and sign the Moderator and Clerk's names thereto.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Querries and Requests—Report was read by the chairman and after some discussion on the best place of meeting was adopted. Appendix A.

Missions—The report was read by J. O. Crawford. Interesting speaches were made by T. I. Wells, T. L Moore and others. During the discussion a motion was carried limiting speeches to five minutes. The report was adopted. Appendix B.

The hour for preaching arrived when Elder J. O. Crawford retired to the stand and preached to the people.

Nominations—Report read by the chairman and was adopted. Appendix C.

Sabath Schools—The report was read by T. M. Gould and discussed by him, N. L. Clarke, H. O. White and others and adopted. Appendix D.

Temperance—Report read by the chairman and was discussed by several brethren and was unanimously adopted. Appendix E.

Finance—Report read and adopted. Appendix F.

Education—Report read by the chairman and was adopted. Appendix G.

Publications—The report was read by Wm. Graham. Remarks were made by J. W. Arnold, T. M. Gould, Wm. Graham and N. L. Clarke, after which it was adopted. Appendix H. The Associat on then adjourned until 2 o'clock.

MONDAY---Evening.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator at 2 o'clock and the regular business resumed.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES—CONTINUED.

State of Religion—The report was read by J. A. Lake. After some explanatory remarks by Elder N. L. Clarke the report was adopted. See first page.

The following brethren were appointed as delegates to the General Association in her annual session for 1896: D T. Chapman, J. A. Lake, W J. Bruner, J. O Crawford, Wm. Yarbrough, N. L Clarke, J. E Chapman, D. M Stroud, T. J. Rhodes, H. Bruce, N. B. Hammons, T. C. Vivarette, J. A. Johnston, J W. McMull n, T. M. Gould, J. J Ingram, W J. McMullen, W. H. Willis. R A. Laird, G. P. Clarke, J. S. Wells, T. I. Wells H. O. White, Joe Rushing, J. S. Hollingsworth, J. E. Graham, Wm. Graham.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved 1st. That the clerk have Abstracts of Faith, Gospel Order, and Rules of Decorum pub isned in the minutes and this resolution is to be made permanent for the future.

2nd. That the pastors and delegates of this Association be requested to bring the subject of missions before their churches, and urge them to send up funds to the General Association.

3rd. That the Clerk be instructed to have the minutes printed where he can get them the most neatly and promptly done, paying for the same when so done and he approves the work, and that he distribute them to the churches as soon as possible, drawing on the treasurer for his usual salary, printers fee, and postage, reserving a sufficient number of copies for correspondence.

4th. All funds remaining in the hands of the treasurer, after all expenses have been met, shall be sent up to the General Association for miss.ons.

5th. That we most heartily tender our thanks to the Mt. Sinai church, and the surrounding community at large for their kind and generous entertainment of this body during this session.

6th. That we now adjourn to meet with the Poplar Springs c urch, in Newton county, Miss., on Saturday before the 3rd Lord's Day in September 1897.

The next place of meeting is five miles east of the town of Newton.

Elder W. P. Vaughn was appointed to preach the next introductory, with J. J. Ingram as alternate. J. M. Moore the next annual sermon on missions with J. W Arnold his alternate. While singing, the parting h nd was extended, closing a very harmonious session of this Association.

Closing prayer by Bro. Wm. Graham and benediction by the Moderator.

N. L. CLARKE,
Moderator.

J. E. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Queries and Requests--A.

We your committee would submit the following report: We find three requests for the next meeting of this body in 1897 viz.: Poplar Springs, Sulphur Springs and Cross Roads. We reccommend that the next meeting of this body be held with Poplar Springs Church, Newton county, Miss.

We also find a request from Linwood church, Neshoba county, asking for a letter of dismission from this body. We reccommend that their request be granted. Respectfully submitted.

J. E. GRAHAM, Chairman

Missions--B.

We your committee would report as followers: The subject of Missions is one of great importance. Great because our blessed Saviour was a misssonary sent on a specific mission, and that was to seek and save those that were lost, The world of mankind are lost without some knoweldge of God and Christ-hence the importance of missions. Our Saviour fully understood the import, ance of mission work when he said "Go ye therefore and teach all nation." baptizing them into the name of the Father, the Son and of the Holy Ghosts &c., Matt. 28, 19-20, Paul another missionary known in the bible says; Romans 10 13-14-15. "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed, and how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard, how shall they hear without a preacher, and how shall they preach except they be sent. We are taught again by the great missionary that he was not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that beliveth &c., Rom. 10 16. Seeing this is a bible doctrine your committee would emphasize the fact that we ought to be more concerned in the spreading of the Gospel. We fail to understand how a man can be a christian and not a missionary. We regard it a grand priviledge to engage in the work of spreading the gospel the Gospel of the Son of God. We therefore beg the brethren of the Mt. Pisgah Association to look around them and see those out of Christ of our own blood, and the Choctaw Indians, and then afar off into heathen lands. O think of their attitude before God and then conclude what is our duty toward them, in the fear of our God and in the revelation of the bible. Our mission work in foreign lands has been wonderfully blessed of God in the salvation of the heathen. 735 were baptized on the fields occupied by Southern Baptists during last year. Encouraging reports came from all our missionaries. The heathen in most cases accept the truth of the gospel as it is in Christ Jesus. We may well say of our foreign work, that "The field is white unto harvest." Notwithstanding the blessings of God on our foreign work we hear it is suffering for the lack of means. In view of these facts we would reccommend that our pastors preach on the subject of missions at least once a year and urge upon their charges their duty in regard to giving, and collections be taken up and sent to the General Association.

T. I. WELLS, Chairman.

Nominations--C

We your committee on Nominations, would make the following report: That Eld. W. P. Vaughn preach the next introductory sermon, with Eld. J. J. Ingram as his alternate. Elder J. M. Moore to preach the annual ser-

mon on missions with J. W. Arnold as his alternate

Respectfully submitted
D. T. CHAPMAN, Chairman.

Sabbath Schools--D.

We, your committee on Sabbath Schools would report as follows; The importance of the Sabbath School is not realized as it should be by our people. All should be taught the doctrines of the Bible as early as possible. We know that the land is overrun with error, and false doctrine, with all the issues of the day, claiming to be founded on the Bible. The church being the gound and pillar of the truth, should see to it that the young and rising generation, should be taught the truth as it is in Christ Jesus. This can only be done by the church taking the oversight of the Sabbath Schools, and see that none but those sound in faith are put to teach the classes. This we know is a weighty responsibility, but nevertheless it rests upon the churches. We can not ignore it and be guiltless. We know the powers of darkness are opposing the truth, and the church stands alone as an institution of Christ whose duty it is to give the truth to our children, as well as to the world of mankind at large,

L. B. FANCHER, Chairman.

Temperance--E.

Your committee on temperance beg leave to report as follows: While intemperance has been and is still doing fearful, and untold evil, we note with gratitude, that very much has been done to create and build up a popular sentiment in the country against it. Yet there is need of expression from God's people against intemperance. We should continue in the warfare against the use of intoxicating liquors, until God's people shall be brought to the conclusion, that it is wrong to indulge in the use of intoxicants in any way, either by drinking as a beverage or in the sale of it. We think that membership in a Baptist church should be regarded as a sufficient restraint to control any one in this matter. Respectfully submitted.

W. H. WILLIS, Chairman.

Finance---F.

Your committee would report as follows: We have examined the Treasurer's report and find that he received at the last meeting of the Association including the amount on hand at that time for all purposes..... $145 66
Disbursments..... 145 76

Balance due treasurer..... 10
Sent up by the churches for Associational purposes..... 98 70
Indian Missions..... 2 00
Foreign Missions..... 6 75
Collected on Sunday, Foreign Missions..... 19 25
" " " Indian Missions..... 19 25

Total..... $145 95

Respectfully submitted D. T. CHAPMAN, Chairman.

Education-G.

Your committee would submit the following: Education is one of the most important questions which concern us, not only as a denomination, but as a people at large. We are living in an age when i is regarded as a neccssity. It is with pride that we can say that our country is well supplied with good schools, even of a high order. Our system of public schools is one of great benefit, especially to the commoner classes of people, We think our people ought to pay more attention in the employment of our teachers. It is always best to employ christian teachers for our schools, and if we cahnot get such, we ought at least to demand good morals as one of the qualifications.

achers ought always to, set good examples for their pupils. Children are reat imitators, and will more readily follow an example than a precept. We ould reccommend Clinton College to such as wish to send off their boys to a ood college. Hillman College at Clinton and Stone College at Meridian, Miss., for the girls

Respectfully submitted.

J. E CHAPMAN, Chairman.

Publications—H.

Your committee on Publications would report as follows: The Mississippi Baptist, a paper published at Newton, Miss,, and edited by our beloved bro her, Eld r N. L, Clarke; (who is a tried and true veteran of the cross,) is one that is worthy of suppo t, and should be sustained by ur people. It is published in the interest of the General and Mount Pisgah Associations. It is sound in scriptual doctrine, and contends "e rnestly for the faith once delivered to the Saints" It's editor speaks out for those gospel principles and teachings as they are set forth in God's word, ever protesting against all innovations, and pointing to the old paths, saying "walk in them." Brethren take the paper, pray for the paper, that by God's grace it may influence our Baptist people to walk in the way of all truth. We do feel brethren as we have so many papers that are not sound in every respect, it is a pleasure to mention one whose venerable editor has been serving in the Master's cause for the last fifty or sixty years, and proven himself true to our principles, and opposing all unscriptual methods of raising means for spreading the Gospel of Christ.

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR POST-OFFICES.

N. L. Clarke	Newton	W. P. Vaughn	Chunkey
R. K. Cleaveland	Union	J. W. Arnold	Stamper
Jas. E. Chapman	Newton	J. J. Ingram	Dixon
L. B. Fancher	House	J. M. Moore	Union
A. J. Ereeman	Newton	H. O. White	Shealy
H. Bruce	Keenan	T. M. Gould	Lake
E. N. Robinson	Lawrence	T. I. Wells	Moore's Mill
W. J. Bruner	Newton	W M. Yarbrough	Newton
D. M. Stroud	Hickory	J. O. Rushing	Harperville
J. H. Saterfield	Chunkey	T. J. Rhodes	Newton
		J. O. Crawford	Garlandsville

LICENTIATES.

S. D. Chesney	House	N. E. Brela d	House
C. C. White	Hope	W. G. Everett	Hickory
W. H. Willis	Prospect	N. B. Hammon	Hickory
J. A. Johnson	Waldo	W. H. Rainer	Moore's Mill
John Rushing	Harpersville		

ABSTRACT OF FAITH. Preamble.

We the churches of Jesus Christ, who have been regularly baptized upon the profession of our faith, and convinced of the utility of a combination of churches, and of maintaining a correspondence for the preserving of union against churches of the same faith, form ourselves into an Association upon the following principles, viz:

1. We believe in one Triune God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, the same in essence, equal in power and glory.

2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament were given by the inspiration of God, and are the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the fall of Adam from his original rectitude, and in him, all his posterity; in consequence of which, we inherit a fallen and depraved nature, consequently the scriptural doctrine of the total depravity of human nature, and of man's inability to restore himself into the favor of God.

4. We believe that God hath loved His people with an everlasting love that he chose them in Christ before the foundation of the world, that He calleth them with a holy and effectual calling and being justified alone

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through the righteousness of Christ imputed to them are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

5. We believe there is one mediator between God and man—the man Christ Jesus—why by the satisfaction He made to the law and justice, in becoming an offering for sin, hath by his most precious blood, become the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

6. We believe that the Gospel is God's appointed means of calling sinners to the knowledge of the truth—that he has commanded it to be preached to every creature, and requires all men to repent, believe and obey.

7. We believe that the Gospel is made effectual by the operation of the Holy Spirit, and that the sinner, in order to be saved, must be born again.

8. We believe that good works are the fruits of faith, and follow after justification, and are evidences of a gracious state and all believers are bound to obey every command of God from a principle of love.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, a general judgment, and that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

Gospel Order.

1. We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of persons who have been baptized upon a profession of their faith, and who have given themselves to the Lord and to one another in brotherly covenant to keep up a Godly discipline agreeable to the teachings of the New Testament.

2 We believe that Jesus Christ is the only Head and Lawgiver of His church; that the government is with the body, the church, and has equally the right and privilege of each member thereof.

3. Webelieve that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are Gospel ordinances, appointed by Jesus Christ and are to be continued in the church until His second coming.

4. We believe that the Ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper are properly administered only by ministers called of God, and set apart to the work by the imposition of hands by a Presbytery of Baptist Ministers.

5. We believe that immersion only is baptism, and that believers in Christ are the only proper subjects

6. We believe that none but regularly baptized members have a right to partake of the Lord's Supper.

7. We believe that it is the duty and privilege of all believers to make a public profession of their faith, to submit to the Ordinances of the Gospel and give themselves as members to the visible church.

8. We believe it to be the duty of every church to expel from her communion every member that is immoral in conduct, or that holds doctrine contrary to the Scriptures.

Objects and powers of this Association.

1. This Association acknowledges and maintains that each church is an independent body, and possesses the sole right to exercise and control its own affairs; and, therefore this Association has no right or power to interfere with the internal rights and privileges of churches composing its body, but may withdraw from any church which may hold false doctrine, or tolerate immoral practice.

2. The objects of this Association shall be to promote fellowship and harmony among the churches; to inquire into any difficulties between the churches, and remove them if possible; to give the churches the best advice they can in difficult matters, when solicited and, in general, to advance the interest of the Redeemer's Kingdom in any way they may deem practical.

3. With regard to the benevolent institutions in our country, we declare it to be the inalienable right of every association, of every church, of every individual member of a church, to support them, according to their own views of duty and dictates of their own conscience; and the right shall never be called in question in this Association. And any motion whereby this

ight is called in question shall be instantly ruled out by the Moderator, as being unconstitutional.

4. This Association may maintain a friendly correspondence, when convenient, with other religious bodies of the same faith.

5. Ministers of the Gospel, in good standing. though not delegates, may be invited to seats in the Association, but not to have the privilege of voting.

6. The Association may appoint any person or persons by and with their consent to transact any business they may deem necessary.

7. The Association may adjourn to any time and place they think proper.

8. The Association shall keep a record of their proceedings, and have them printed when necessary.

9. The Association shall have a fund, and appoint a treasurer to take charge of it, who shall account to the Association for all monies which shall come into his hands for the use of the Association.

10. The Association may form their own By-Laws, and regulate their own proceedings in such a manner as they may think expedient.

Rules of Decorum.

1. This Associoation shall consist of delegates chosen by the churches to which they respectfully belong, and shall be styled the Mt. Pisgah Association.

2. Such delegates shall be members in good standing, and no members under church censure, shall be allowed a seat in the Association.

3. They shall produce letters. certifying their appointment by their respective churches, and stating the number baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and deceased, during the preceeding Associational year, with the total number in fellowship, and such other statistical matters as the Association may direct.

4. This Association shall have a moderator, clerk and treasurer, who shall be annually chosen by a majority of the members present, by ballot or otherwise. Said officers shall fill their respective places, if present, at the succeeding Association, until a new election takes place, and while in office, shall discharge the duties ordinarily incidental to those offices.

5. If new churches desire to be admitted into the Association, they shall petition by letter and delegates, and, if orthodox and orderly, shall be received, and the Moderator shall recognize them by giving their delegates the right hand of fellowship in behalf of the body.

6. Every church shall be allowed two delegates and no more until her number shall exceed one hundred—three, until it shall exceed one hundred and fifty, then four and no more.

7. The Association shall neither answer or debate any query on Gospel doctrine except it be merely to explain the meaning of the Articles of Faith of this Association.

8. Every motion made in order and seconded, shall be reduced to writing if requested by any member, and shall be considered by the Association except withdrawn by the mover before discussion.

9. Motions made and lost, shall not be recorded on the minutes, unless so ordered at the time.

10. If any proposition or motion under debate contain two or more points it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote taken on each point separately.

11. Only one member shall speak at the same time who shall arise from his seat and address the Moderator. He shall confine himself to the subject properly in debate, cast no reflection on the Association, or any member thereof and shall not be interrupted while speaking.

12. No person shall speak more than once upon the same subject till all who may desire to speak thereon have enjoyed that privilege, and not then without leave of the Association.

13. The Moderator shall have the privilege of speaking on any question to the body.

14. The Moderator shall decide questions of order, but an appeal from such decision may be taken to the whole body, which shall be decided without debate.

15. A majority of the members present shall be necessary to carry any motion or proposition, and the Moderator shall vote as other members when the question is taken; and in case of a tie, the question shall again be put to the Association, and if not then decided, the Moderator shall proceed to decide the matter in controversy by lot.

16. Committees shall be nominated by the Moderator; subject to the approval of the Association

17. There shall be no talking or whispering while a brother is speaking.

18. No brother shall finally depart from the Association without leave of the body.

19. The names of the delegates shall be enrolled by the clerk, and called over whenever necessary.

20. The minutes shall be read and carefully corrected, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk, before the Association rise.

21. A motion of final adjournment shall be construed to involve the previous reading and adjustment of the minutes.

22. The Association shall be opened by prayer.

23. The Rules of Order shall be distinctly read by order from the Moderator, as soon as the Association convenes on Monday.

24. The foregoing articles shall be subject to alteration or amendment at any regular meeting of the Association by a majority of the Association.

Report

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N. L.
J. W.

Report of the Committee on State of Religion and Fraternal Correspondence with the Churches.

DEAR BRETHREN: Through the ever abounding mercy of God, we have been allowed and enabled to hold our Sixtieth Annual Session. Our brethren of the Poplar Springs Church, have received us cordially, and sustained us bountifully, even richly. The weather has been fine. The past year, embracing our present session, has been one of much prosperity and peace. The churches and their pastors seem to have kept the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace. We have word from nearly all the churches that compose our body. They have all had preaching, and most of them additions by baptism—more or less numerous. Likely, more baptisms have been reported this year than for many in the past. Our ministers have been self-denying and laborious. Happily our churches seem in the main to have escaped questions that gender strife; exhibiting great soundness in the faith; being builded on the Rock, they feel the foundation sure. The preaching during this session of the body has been sound and instructive. The work of Missions is admitted still to be our great work. Fifty-three years devoted to this blessed work by our Association, has served to show that it is of God. Likely, at no time, have we been more united in our efforts to give the gospel to a perishing world. God is blessing our work where-ever put forth. Looking back over the past, up to the present time, we see no reason for discouragement, but much to the contrary. We draw this from past success and the Scripture promises of success to the faithful, "Be ye faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." There are besetments, and we, as baptists, are in danger of being injured by them. The admonition, "Watch," was especially given to the pastors, and under them to the churches. Then let us watch. Peter, the apostle, exhorts elders to be sober, to be vigilant, and watch their adversary, the devil, who as a roaring lion goeth about seeking whom he may devour; and adds: "Whom resist steadfast in the faith." We have more to fear from the world and its wisdom, plans and policy than anything else. Worldly honor in the Kingdom of God is church ruin. No intelligent baptist can shut his eyes to the fact that many of our churches in the State are compromising to the world. Hear the sacred Word, "Be not conformed to this world." Let us be careful in the reception of members and in ordaining ministers. We want members, but character more. Let us not change the form of worship left us by our fathers. How sad to see the lifeless instrument take the place of the human voice in God's worship, while half the church or more mourn over the change. Paul did not give place to error for a moment. "Give the devil an inch and he will take an ell." Shall we stain the reputation of our grand and beloved association by letting in the world? God forbid.

N. L. CLARKE,
J. W. ARNOLD,
I. H. BROWN,
L. S. JAMES,
H. W. LAIRD.
J. M. MOORE,
J. H. SATTERFIELD,

Proceedings of Mt. Pisgah Baptist Association in Annual Session for 1897.

POPLAR SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH,
Newton Co., Miss., Sept. 18, 1897.

According to the arrangements of the last annual meeting of the Mt. Pisgah Association, Elder W. P. Vaughn, at 11 o'clock, preached the Introductory Sermon. Text—1st. clause of the 2nd verse of II Tim., 4th chapter: "Preach the Word." The sermon was faithfully and earnestly delivered, warning against the many innovations of the day, and also admonishing to continue in and for the Scriptural doctrines of grace. It was well received by a good sized and orderly congregation.

After the sermon about an hour was spent in refreshments, furnished by the church and community, which were abundant in quantity and excellent in quality.

AFTERNOON—SATURDAY.

After singing an appropriate hymn, prayer was offered by Elder J. M. Moore.

The Association was then convened by her venerable Moderator, Elder N. L. Clarke, in her 60th annual session.

The following committees were then appointed:

TO READ LETTERS—J. O. Crawford, W. J. McMullen, R. E. Chapman.

FINANCE—A. J. Small, J. K. Jordan, C. C. Roebuck.

Elder J. J. Ingram was appointed to preach at the stand.

Letters from the churches were then called for and read, and delegates names enrolled. All were represented or heard from in some way except one, Concord, Jasper county.

By unanimous consent the Association agreed to re-officer by acclimation.

Elder N. L. Clarke was re-elected Moderator, Jas. E. Chapman re-elected Clerk and J. E. Graham re-elected Treasurer.

Visiting ministers were invited to seats with the body.

Petitionary letters were then called for—none petitioning.

Correspondence from sister Associations was then called for, when Elder J. T. Halford presented a letter from the Salem Association, and was seated as such with the body.

Owing to the "yellow fever excitement" it is thought other correspondents were kept away.

The usual committees were then appointed by the Modera-

tor as follows :

ON PREACHING—Pastor and deacons of Poplar Springs Church with Wm. Graham and T. E. Wilson.

QUERIES AND REQUESTS—J. W. Arnold, W. J. Bruner, J. E. Graham, C. R. Pace, T. G. Coker.

NOMINATIONS—R. L. Simmons, C. C. Bradley, T. W. Gulley, Joe Rushing, Wm. Graham.

TEMPERANCE—J. E. Chapman, H. Bruce, A. W. Petty, F. M. Breland, A. P. Wash, Wm, Yarbrough.

PUBLICATIONS—T. M. Gould, J. R. Sansing, J. C. Russell, A. J. Rainer, W. J. McMullen.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS—J. O. Crawford, N. H. Monroe, W. S. Wedgeworth, S. D. Reeves, W. F. Nicholson, R. N. McDill.

MISSIONS—J. M. Moore, T. D. Gordan, L. A. Chesney, N. C. Weed, J. P. Pace.

EDUCATION—W. P. Vaughn, B. W. Rainer, T. E. Wilson, Eley Robinson.

STATE OF RELIGION AND FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE CHURCHES—I. H. Brown, J. M. Moore, J. W. Arnold, L. S. James, J. H. Satterfield, H. W. Laird. On motion, the Moderator was added and made chairman.

On motion, a special committee on Obituaries was appointed : H. O. White, J. E. Chapman, Wm. Yarbrough, J. P. Pace, H. Bruce.

The Preaching Committee made the following report : Prayer Meeting at 10 o'clock, conducted by H. O. White. Elder J. M. Moore to preach the sermon on Missions at 11 o'clock. Elder J. T. Halford at the stand at 2 o'clock in the evening and Elder H. O. White at the house at the same hour. Elder J. W. Arnold to preach at 11 o'clock Monday.

On motion, agreed to take up collection at the close of the 11 o'clock service on Lord's day for Missions.

On motion, adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock Monday morning.

LORD'S DAY SERVICES.

At 10 o'clock Sunday morning the prayer meeting exercises were conducted by Elder H. O. White. During the prayer meeting, a special prayer was offered in behalf of our country, for deliverance from the yellow fever plague which is now in some portions of our land. Elder N. L. Clark led in the prayer.

At 11 o'clock Elder J. M. Moore preached the annual sermon on Missions. His subject was taken from Mathew 25th chapter, from 14 to 30 verses. Theme : "The Kingdom of Christ and its mission in the world." The sermon was one of his very best, and was well received by a very large con-

gregation. We all felt it good to be there, and it is hoped much good will result from this day's services. At the close a collection was taken for Missions.

At 2:30 o'clock, Elder J. T. Halford preached at the stand and Elder H. O. White in the house. The preaching was well received and considered sound and instructive. Thus closed the Lord's day services. Refreshments were served at the usual hour, which were partaken of by all.

MONDAY MORNING, 9 O'CLOCK.

At 9 o'clock the Association was opened by song and prayer, offered by Elder Wm. Yarbrough.

Letters and messengers were then called for from churches not heard from on Saturday.

Letters were read from Sardis Church, Scott county, and Centre Ridge, Newton county.

The roll was called and several brethren excused.

Renewed call for correspondence from sister Associations. None.

By request of the Moderator, the Clerk read the objects and Powers and Rules of Decorum of the Association.

Appointed the following correspondents to sister Associations:

HARMONY—J. J. Ingram, J. M. Porter.
SALEM—N. L. Clarke, E. N. Robinson.
NEW LIBERTY—N. L. Clarke, T. J. Rhodes.
SPRINGFIELD—Joe Rushing, T. M. Gould.
PEARL VALLEY—J. M. Porter, F. M. Breland.
OKTIBEHA—J. M. Moore, J. J. Ingram.
LIBERTY—Wm. Yarbrough, W. J. Bruner.

Resolved, That all messengers be authorized to write their own letters, and sign the Moderator's and Clerk's names to the same.

By motion, agreed to renew correspondence with the Liberty Association, and appointed messengers as above.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

By action of the Association, speeches were limited to ten minutes.

QUERIES AND REQUESTS—Report read by J. W. Arnold. Discussed by Wm. Yarbrough, T. J. Rhodes and J. W. Arnold, and adopted. Appendix A.

MISSIONS—The report was read by J. M. Moore. Remarks by brethren Vaughn, White and others, and then adopted. Appendix B.

The following resolution was adopted by the Association :

Resolved, That the Patrons' Union be requested not to encourage the Indians in ball playing, as we are endeavoring to Christianize them with the Gospel, and we feel that it is demoralizing to our work.

NOMINATIONS—The report was read by R. L. Simmons and adopted. Appendix C.

SABBATH SCHOOLS—Report was read by J. O. Crawford, the chairman, and adopted. Appendix D.

TEMPERANCE—The report read by J. E. Chapman. Discussed by brethren Vaughn, Crawford and others. Adopted. Appendix E.

Adjourned one hour for dinner.

MONDAY—AFTERNOON.

After refreshments resumed business. Reports of committees continued.

FINANCE—Report was read by A. J. Small and unanimously adopted. Appendix F.

PUBLICATIONS—The report was read by chairman T. M. Gould. Discussed by the chairman, Satterfield, N. L. Clarke and others and adopted. Appendix G.

EDUCATION—J. O. Crawford read the report by request. Adopted. Appendix H.

STATE OF RELIGION and FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE CHURCHES.—Report was read by J. M. Moore and adopted. First page.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON OBITUARIES—By request J. E. Chapman read the report. Adopted. Appendix J.

The following named brethren were appointed as delegates to the General Association of Mississippi: T. C. Viverett, W. P. Vaughn, N. L. Clarke, D. T. Chapman, J. E. Chapman, H. Bruce, J. W. Arnold, J. O. Crawfbrd, I. H. Brown, T. I. Wells, Wm. Yarbrough, J. M. Porter, J. E. Graham, C. C. Roebuck, T. E. Wilson, N. C. Weed, J. W. Boyd, T. J. Rhodes, W. J. McMullen, W. J. Bruner, G. G. Rainer.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved 1st., That the clerk have Abstract of Faith, Gospel Order, and Rules of Decorum published in the minutes, and this resolution be made permanent for the future.

2nd. That the pastors and delegates of this Association be requested to bring the subject of Missions before their churches and urge them to send up funds to the General Association.

3rd. That the clerk publish in the minutes a form of letter to the Association for the benefit of the churches.

4th. That the clerk be instructed to have the minutes printed where he can get them the most neatly and promptly

done, paying for the same when so done and he approves the work, and that he distribute them to the churches as soon as possible, drawing on the treasurer for his usual salary, printer's fee, and postage, reserving a sufficient number of copies for correspondence.

5th. All funds remaining in the hands of Treasurer, after all expenses have been met, shall be sent up to the General Association for Missions.

6th. That we most heartily tender our thanks to the Poplar Springs Church, and surrounding community at large for their kind, generous, and abundant entertainment of the Association during this session.

7th. That we now adjourn to meet with Sulphur Springs Church, Scott county, Miss., on Saturday before the 3rd Lord's day in September, 1898.

Elder J. J. Ingram is to preach the next Introductory with Wm. Yarbrough, alternate. Elder N. L. Clarke on Missions, J. E. Chapman, alternate.

While singing, the parting hand was taken, thus closing a very pleasant and harmonious session. Closing prayer by J. E. Chapman.

N. L. CLARKE,
Moderator.

J. E. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

APPENDICES.

QUERIES AND REQUESTS—A.

We, your committee, would submit the following report: We find seven requests for the next meeting of this body, 1898, to-wit: Cross Roads, Hebron, Pine Bluff, Pinckney, Mt. Vernon, Sulphur Springs and Rock Branch. We recommend the next meeting to be held with the Sulphur Springs Church, Scott county, Miss.

We also find the following query from Pleasant Hill Church: Can a church scripturally receive or retain in fellowship a member who has married a divorced person whose former companion is still living?

To the above query we would make the following answer: A member may be retained in fellowship who has married a person divorced from another, if the one scriptural ground referred to in Mathew 19:9 existed as the cause of the separation.

Respectfully submitted,
J. W. ARNOLD, Chairman.

MISSIONS—B.

Your Committee on Missions report: That the law of the Great Head of the Church commanding us "to preach the gospel to every creature", has not been repeated, and that it is just as essential to obey Him in this command, as it is in the act of baptism or communion at the Lord's table. Jesus says: "Why call ye me Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" And this duty is just as plainly taught as the duty of baptism. In fact both duties are coupled together, and incorporated in the same sentence. The last words of our Savior were, "Go teach all nations, baptizing them," &c. This command is given to the Church, first to teach, then to baptize the taught. While all Baptists readily admit that we can not obey the gospel without bap-

tism, yet many seem to think they may render acceptable obedience without engaging in Mission work. It accords with the whole tenor of scripture that God wants the whole world to hear the gospel. The field is the world, and He has imposed this duty upon His churches. This is the vineyard in which we are to work, the field we are to occupy till He comes. We are to continue the work till He comes. But why does He want it preached to the world? 1st. Because it bears the message of God's love to a lost and guilty world. He wants it known that "God is love;" that His love is boundless and everlasting, and that in the greatness of His love He has provided for men dead in sin, a Savior mighty, and able to save all that come unto God by Him. 2nd. Because the gospel is the only appointed means whereby sinners can be pointed to Christ. This truth is so abundantly taught in the New Testament that it is astonishing why any reader should doubt it. "Not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." "It pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." As God's love to us prompted Him to make the great sacrifice upon the cross for us, so our love to Him, and to the lost and perishing, should prompt us in contributing freely, cheerfully, willingly, liberally and continuously to this glorious and heaven appointed work. The more we possess of the mind and spirit of our blessed Savior, the more heartily will we engage in this work. And where-ever the gospel has gone, it has borne fruit. We see evidences of its saving power among the Indians in our midst. Before the gospel was preached them a few years ago, they were all strangers to the grace of God. But now many of them love and worship the same God that we do. It has been a great struggle for some of them to break off their old habits of ball-playing, crying over their dead, &c. And in this many of our white brethren have aided and encouraged them by their presence and influence. This is very wrong. An Indian cry or ball play, is no place for a Christian. "Let every one that nameth the name of Christ, depart from iniquity." Let us who have taken upon us that holy name, do all that we can to teach them that all such practices are inconsistent with the Christian profession, and help them by counsel and influence and every possible way that we can, to give them up for the sake of Him who gave Himself for us.

Respectfully submitted,
J. M. MOORE, Chairman.

NOMINATIONS—C.

We, your Committee on Nominations, would submit the following report: Elder J. J. Ingram to preach the next Introductory Sermon, with Elder Wm. Yarbrough as alternate. Elder N. L. Clarke the Annual Sermon on Missions and J. E. Chapman be his alternate.

Respectfully,
R. L. SIMMONS, Chairman.

SABBATH SCHOOLS—D.

Your committee beg to report as follows: So far as reports from the churches show, there is very little interest manifested on the part of our churches in Sunday School work. This we deeply deplore. 1st. Because the Sunday School is a great factor, not only in indoctrinating our children and young people in Bible truths, but also in our distinctive Baptist doctrines and principles. 2nd. We believe, that if the children of Baptist parents are not specially looked after and taught the truth as contained in the Bible, together with the importance and necessity of conforming to its teachings and strictly following the commands of our Saviour, they are more liable to conform to the teachings of men and be led to embrace error.

We consider the work of the Sunday School, church work, and as

such, should be entirely under the direction of the church. Each church should have a Sunday School officered by men who are not only members of the church, but by those who are also known to be sound in New Testament doctrines. Teachers should also be members of the church with unquestionable faith in all of our doctrines.

Your committee would recommend the study and continued use of the Bible in the Sunday School, and that it should never be discarded; but it may be supplemented by the use of lesson helps, such as are published by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. There are other good helps to the study of the Bible, but we would recommend the use of our own Southern Baptist literature.

Respectfully submitted,
J. O. CRAWFORD, Chairman.

TEMPERANCE—E.

We, your Committee, would submit the following: "We feel that we have great reason to rejoice over the fact that our country is still relieved of that "curse of curses," the saloon. We should give God the gratitude of our hearts and praises of our lips for what he has enabled His people to accomplish in this great cause. While much has been done, there still remains much to be done. "Blind tigers" still exist to some extent in our country (so report says) and even hints of "illicit distilling," as well as "dealing in bitters"—all of which ought and must be condemned by us. We feel that to patronize such things is to be equally guilty with the vendor. It is as much a sin to give our encouragement in any form to such things as to engage in them. We are taught in God's Word to be obedient to the powers of government, and such things are plain violations of the laws of our country. Therefore, we recommend our ministers to preach against such things and our churches to discipline such members as engage in or patronise such things. Let us never let up on such things until the last vestige of this untold curse is obliterated from our country, and our boys will be free from its temptations at all times and places. Submitted,

J. E. CHAPMAN, Chairman.

FINANCE—F.

Your committee would report as follows: We have examined the Treasurer's report, and find that he received at the last meeting of the Association, including amount on hand at that time for all purposes $145.85. Disbursements, $145.85.

The following was sent up by the churches:

Associational funds	$100.70
Home Missions	13.50
Indian Missions	2.15
Foreign Missions,	.25
Collected on Sunday	15.43
Amount received at fifth Sunday meeting	9.25
Total	$141.28

Respectfully submitted,
A. J. SMALL, Chairman.

PUBLICATIONS—G.

We, your committee, would report as follows: We realize that we should be very careful what we recommend to our people, for we know that the literature read, and especially by the young, has much to do in shaping their course in after life. We find much literature in circulation, attractive in appearance, with much piety incorporated in it, so that many may be misled thereby. Many of our papers are fostering human organizations that are trying to usurp the work of the

church. These societies are rivals of the Church of Christ. Such literature is error beautified and sugar coated. We have but few papers standing in the old way, and pointing to the old paths, which are the paths of Jesus. We have a paper in our midst, the Mississippi Baptist, sound in the faith. Its editor is tried and true. The paper gives no uncertain sound. We should pay our money to support it, and raise our prayers to God in behalf of its editor. We beg you not to freeze nor starve our paper to death. Jesus says, "As much as ye did it to the least of my brethren, ye did it unto me." So stand by our paper, for it pleads the cause of Christ and His churches.

Submitted,
T. M. GOULD, Chairman.

EDUCATION—H.

Your committe submit the following: Education is a question of much interest and great benefit to all classes of people. We have common schools all over the land, and as more people are benefitted by them than any other schools, is one reason why we ought to be more interested in them. More good can be done for the masses by them than by high schools. Hence, we ought to use caution and care in selecting teachers, for they wield a great fnfluence over their pupils. Education is considered a necessity, and is essential to prepare us for any great usefulness in this life. We should give our children the best educational qualifications possible, that they may benefit mankind as well as themselves. Let us do these things with caution and care, lest we be disappointed in our expectations of them. We would recommend Mississippi College for boys and Stone College for our girls. There are other good high grade schools, also, that are worthy of our support.

W. P. VAUGHN, Chairman.

OBITUARIES—J.

We would submit the following: During the last Associational year your body has sustained the loss of Elder A. J. Freeman, who was called to his reward early in the morning of June 20th, 1897. He was born in Jasper county, Georgia, August 28, 1830. He professed faith in Christ and united with the Bethel Baptist Church, August 16, 1858, in his native state. He was ordained to the work of the ministry, December 29, 1859, and spent an active life in this work until he removed to Newton county, Miss., in December, 1876. Brother was very closely identified with our Association from the time he came to Mississippi, serving churches with much acceptance as long as his health permitted. He was greatly beloved by all of our people and his death is deeply felt, and his presence greatly missed among us. He was chosen as State Senator for four years in the Mississippi legislature, in which capacity he served with much honor and faithfulness to himself and his constituency.

We would also mention the decease of a number of our deacons and lay brethren and sisters, all of whom were faithful and more or less useful in their different spheres:

Deacons—Walker Sansing, of County Line; James Simmons, of Pine Ridge; A. M. Smith, of Sand Springs; Edward Dean, Poplar Springs, and Henry Robinson, of Ebenezer, Newton county. Also, brethren J. T. Roebuck, Pinckney; W. L. Edwards, Pleasant Hill; James Collins, Rock Branch; Henry White, Hickory; John Ryle, Decatur; Oliver Whatley, Bethel. Sisters: Cynthia Graham, of Beulah, who reached the ripe age of 92 years; S. C. R. Moore, wife of Elder J. M. Moore; sister Rushing, companion of Elder Joe Rushing; S. R. Vaughn, New Providence; Herd Newton, Fannie Denton, Bethel, all of whom departed in the faith of Jesus. "Write, blessed are the dead that die in the Lord," &c.

Submitted,
H. O. WHITE, Chairman.

Ordained Ministers and their Postoffices.

N. L. Clarke	Newton	W. P. Vaughn,	Chunkey
R. K. Cleaveland	Union	J. W. Arnold	Stamper
Jas. E. Chapman	Newton	J. J. Ingram,	Dixon
J. O. Crawford	Garlandsville	J. M. Moore	Beech Springs
L. B. Fancher	House	H. O. White,	Shealy
H. Bruce	Keenan	T. M. Gould	Lake
E. N. Robinson	Lawrence	T. I. Wells	Moore's Mills
W. J. Bruner	Newton	Wm. Yarbrough	Newton
D. M. Stroud	Hickory	Joe Rushing	Harperville
J H Satterfield	Chunkey	T. J. Rhodes	Newton
F. M. Breland	Dixon		

Licentiates and their Post-Offices.

S. D. Chesney	House	W. G. Everett	Hickory
C. C. White	Hope	N. B. Hammons	Hickory
W. H. Willis	Prospect	W. H. Rainer,	Moore's Mills
M. T. Collins	Union	B. W. Rainer,	Moore's Mills
Jesse Nelson	Union		

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, COUNTY.

The *Baptist Church of Christ,*

To the Mt. Pisgah Association, in her annual session for the year 189 .

DEAR BRETHREN—We have chosen our beloved brethren, to represent us in your body with as alternates.

Our statistics are as follows:

Baptized	Number of Minutes
Received by Letter	Associational fund,
Restored,	Time of Meeting
Dismissed by Letter	Ordained Ministers
Excluded	His Post Office
Dead	Licentiates
Males	Their Post Office
Females	Church's Post Office
Total,	

Brethren, pray for us, and may the Lord be with and bless you in all of your deliberations.

(Here make requests or propound queries.)

Approved by the church in Conference, August 189

B. C., Clerk

A. B., Moderator.

ABSTRACT OF FAITH---Preamble.

We, the churches of Jesus Christ, who have been regularly pabtized upon the profession of our faith, and convinced of the utility of a combination of churches, and of maintaining a correspondence for the preserving of union amongst churches of the same faith, form ourselves into an Association upon the following principles, viz:

1. We believe in one Triune God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, the same in essence, equal in power and glory.

2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament were given by the inspiration of God, and are the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the fall of Adam from his original rectitude, and in him, all his posterity; in consequence of which, we inherit a fallen and depraved nature, consequently the scriptural doctrine of the total depravity of human nature, and of man's inability to restore himself into the favor of God.

4. We believe that God hath loved His people with an everlasting love, that He chose them in Christ before the foundation of the World, that He calleth them with a holy and effectual calling and being justified alone through the righteousness of Christ imputed to them, are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

5. We believe there is one mediator between God and man--the man Christ Jesus--who, by the satisfaction He made to the law and justice, in becoming an offering for sin, hath, by His most precious blood, become the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

6. We believe that the gospel is God's appointed means of calling sinners to the knowledge of the truth--that He has commanded it to be preached to every creature, and requires all men to repent, believe and obey.

7. We believe that the gospel is made effectual by the operation of the Holy Spirit, and that the sinner, in order to be saved, must be born again.

8. We believe that good works are the fruits of faith, and follow after justification, and are evidences of a gracious state, and all believers are bound to obey every command of God from a principle of love.

9. We believe in the resurection of the dead, a general judgment, and that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

GOSPEL ORDER.

1. We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of persons who have been baptized upon a profession of their faith, and who have given themselves to the Lord, and to one another in brotherly covenant to keep up a Godly discipline agreeable to the teachings of the New Testament.

2. We believe that Jesus Christ is the only Head and Lawgiver of His Church; that the government is with the body, the church, and has equally the right and privilege of each member thereof.

3. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are gospel ordinances, appointed by Jesus Christ, and are to be continued in the church until His second coming.

4. We believe that the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper are properly administered only by ministers called of God and set apart to the work by the imposition of hands by a Presbytery of regular Baptist ministers.

5. We believe that immersion only is baptism, and that believers in Christ are the only proper subjects.

6. We believe that none but regularly baptized church members have a right to partake of the Lord's Supper.

7. We believe that it is a duty and privilege of all believers to make a public profession of their faith, to submit to the ordinances of the gospel and give themselves as members to the visible church.

8. We believe it to be the duty of every church to expel from her communion every member that is immoral in conduct, or that holds doctrine contrary to the Scriptures.

OBJECTS AND POWERS OF THIS ASSOCIATION.

1. This Association acknowledges and maintains that each church is an independent body, and possesses the sole right to exercise and control its own affairs; and, therefore this Association has no right or power to interfere with the internal rights and privileges of churches composing its body, but may withdraw from any church which may hold false doctrine, or tolerate immoral practice.

2. The objects of this Association shall be to promote fellowship and harmony among the churches; to inquire into any difficulties between the churches, and remove them if possible; to give the churches the best advice they can in difficult matters, when solicited, and, in general to advance the interest of the Redeemer's Kingdom in any way they may deem practical.

3. With regard to the benevolent institutions in our country, we declare it to be the inalienable right of every association, of every church, of every individual member of a church, to support them according to their own views of duty and dictates of their own conscience; and the right shall never be called in question in this Association. And any motion whereby this right is called in question shall be instantly ruled out by the Moderator, as being unconstitutional.

4. This Association may maintain a friendly correspondence when convenient with other religious bodies of the same faith.

5. Ministers of the gospel in good standing, though not delegates may be invited to seats in the Association, but not to have the privilege of voting.
6. The Association may appoint any person or persons by and with their consent, to transact any business they may deem necessary.
7. The Association may adjourn to any time and place they think proper.
8. The Association shall keep a record of their proceedings, and have them printed when necessary.
9. The Association shall have a fund, and appoint a treasurer to take charge of it, who shall account to the Association for all monies which shall come into his hands for the use of the association.
10. The Association may form their own By-Laws, and regulate their own proceedings in such a manner as they may think expedient.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. This Association shall consist of delegates chosen by the churches to which they respectfully belong, and shall be styled the Mt. Pisgah Association.
2. Such delegates shall be members in good standing, and no members under church censure shall be allowed a seat in the Association.
3. They shall produce letters certifying their appointment by their respective churches, and stating the number baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and deceased, during the preceeding Associational year, with the total number in fellowship, and such other statistical matters as the Association may direct.
4. This Association shall have a moderator, clerk and treasurer, who shall be annually chosen by a majority of the members present, by ballot or otherwise. Said officers shall fill their respective places, if present, at the succeeding Association, until a new election takes place, and while in office, shall discharge the duties ordinarily incidental to those offices.
5. If new churches desire to be admitted into the Association, they shall petition by letter and delegates, and, if orthordox and orderly, shall be received, and the Moderator shall recognize them by giving their delegates the right hand of fellowship in behalf of the body.
6. Every church shall be allowed two delegates and no more until her number shall exceed one hundred—three until it shall exceed one hundred and fifty, then four and no more.
7. The Association shall neither answer or debate any query on Gospel Doctrine, except it be merely to explain the meaning of the Articles of Faith of this Association.
8. Every motion made in order and seconded, shall be reduced to writing if requested by any member, and shall be considered by the Association except withdrawn by the mover before discussion.
9. Motions made and lost, shall not be recorded on the minutes, unless so ordered at the time.
10. If any proposition or motion under debate contain two or more points it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote taken on each point separately.
11. Only one member shall speak at the same time who shall arise from his seat and address the Moderator. He shall confine himself to the subject properly in debate, cast no reflection on the Association, or any member thereof and shall not be interrupted while speaking.
12. No person shall speak more than once upon the same subject till all who may desire to speak thereon have enjoyed that privilege, and not then without leave of the Association.
13. The Moderator shall have the privilege of speaking on any question to the body.
14. The Moderator shall decide questions of order, but an appeal from such decision may be taken to the whole body, which shall be decided without debate.
15. A majority of the members present shall be necessary to carry any motion or proposition, and the Moderator shall vote as other members when the question is taken; and in case of a tie, the question shall again be put to the Association, and if not then decided, the Moderator shall proceed to decide the matter in controversy by lot.
16. Committees shall be nominated by the Moderator, subject to the approval of the Association.
17. There shall be no talking or whispering while a brother is speaking.
18. No brother shall finally depart from the Association without leave of the body.
19 The names of the delegates shall be enrolled by the clerk, and called over whenever necessary.
20. The minutes shall be read and carefully corrected, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk, before the Association rise.
21. A motion of final adjournment shall be construed to involve the previous reading and adjustment of the minutes.
22. The Association shall be opened by prayer.
23. The Rules of Order shall be distinctly read by order from the Moderator, as soon as the Association convenes on Monday.
24. The foregoing articles shall be subject to alteration or amendment, at any regular meeting of the Association by a majority of the Association.

CHURCHE

Bethlehem
Bethel
Bethel
Bethany
Beulah
County Line
Concord
Cross Roads
Centre Ridge
Chunkey
Decatur
Enon
Ebenezer
Ebenezer
Ephesus
Good Hope
Good Hope
Hickory
Hebron
Lake
Mt. Sinai
Midway
Mt. Vernon
Mt. Pleasant
New Prospect
New Hope
New Hope
Newton
New Providen
Oakland
Old Union
Pleasant Hill
Pinkney
Poplar Spring
Prairi' Concor
Pine Bluff
Pine Ridge
Poplar
Randall Hill
Rock Branch
Salem
Sulph'r Spring
Sand Springs
Sardis
Union
Union
Woodland

Total

NOTE—Beth
Missions, $6.90.

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STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	POST OFFICES.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Baptized.	Received by Letter.	Restored.	Dismissed by Letter.	Excluded.	Dead.	Males.	Females.	Colored.	Total.	No. Minutes.	Associational Fund.	Time of Meeting.	Licentiates.	Ordained Ministers.	PASTORS.
Bethlehem	Newton	Union	T. D. Gordon, Nat. Gulley																J. M. Moore.
Bethel	Newton	Newton	J E Chapman, H. L. Shotts, R. L. Simmons	15	1		1		1	23	27		50	15	1 50	2			
Bethel	Neshoba	House	L. A. Chesney		11		10	1	3	41	65		106	30	3 00	3		1	J. E. Chapman.
Bethany	Neshoba	Franks	J M Porter, R I White	6		1	2	1		12	18		30	10	1 85	4	1	1	L B Fancher.
Beulah	Newton	Riversville	H O White, J E Graham, J L Harrison, W H Harrison	2						15	19		34	10	1 00	1	1		T G Ward.
County Line	Neshoba	Union	J R Sansing, W B Sansing	8	2		1	1	2	64	115	3	182	50	4 00	4		1	H O White.
Concord	Jasper	Gariandsville	Not represented	1	3		2	1	1	26	46		72	25	2 50	4	1		G W Breland.
Cross Roads	Newton	Keenan	H Bruce, J C Russell										22	6		4			J O Crawford.
Centre Ridge	Newton	Moore's Mill	By Letter		3		8			34	32		66	20	2 00	3		1	H Bruce.
Chunkey	Newton	Chunkey	J A May	3	2		11			21	21		42	20	2 00	4		1	T I Wells.
Decatur	Newton	Decatur	J W McMullen, J K Jordan, T G Coker	7	14		1			17	28		45	20	6 00	4			C C Vaughn.
Enon	Neshoba	Engine	W W Jenkins, S F Rhodes	6	2		1		3	58	83	15	156	60	5 00	2			N L Clarke.
Ebenezer	Neshoba	Beech Springs	By Letter	4	4	1	2			14	30		44	21	2 10	3			G W Breland.
Ebenezer	Newton	Lawrence	E N Robinson, E M Nelson		2		2			12	8		20	12	1 20	3			J M Moore.
Ephesus	Scott	Forest	J A Gardner, A J Myers	8	5		2		1	16	41		57	10	1 00	3		1	W J Bruner.
Good Hope	Newton	Hickory	James Biggs, S W Monroe	12	3		1	2	1	19	33		52	15	1 50	4			Joel Rushing.
Good Hope	Scott	Lake	Will Brooks	5	1					16	19		35	15	1 50	2	1	1	W P Vaughn.
Hickory	Newton	Hickory	C R Pace	5		1	6		3	13	20		33	10	1 00	2			Joel Rushing.
Hebron	Newton	Riversville	H W Laird, M J Taylor	12	4		5	3	1				69	25	2 50	3			T I Wells.
Lake	Scott	Lake	T M Gould	14	2	1	1			23	19		42	20	2 10	2			L B Fancher.
Mt. Sinai	Neshoba	Dixon	J J Ingram, F M Breland		2					8	13		21	10	1 00	2		1	J E Chapman.
Midway	Newton	Newton	W J McMullen, B F Gibson	13	9	1	2	1	3	37	73		110	40	4 05	3		2	R M Woodruff.
Mt. Vernon	Newton	Hickory	J O Crawford, D Nicholson				2		1	10	19		29	18	1 25	3			Wm Yarbrough.
Mt. Pleasant	Newton	Chunkey	G G Rainer	1						36	44		80	15	1 50	1		1	J O Crawford.
New Prospect	Newton	Prospect	C M Russell, W L Pace	1	4		6	6	2	27	54		81	25	2 50	2			T I Wells.
New Hope	Neshoba	Centralia	G M Smith, T W Gully			1	1			25	37		62	15	2 00	1	1		J W Arnold.
New Hope	Scott	Lake	T F Gould	27	8	4			2	40	51		91	25	3 35	3			J J Ingram.
Newton	Newton	Newton	N L Clarke, J W Phillips	6			4	1	1	28	29		57	20	2 00	4			J E Chapman.
New Providence	Newton	Chunkey	W P Vaughn, J H Satterfield				2		1	23	38		61	25	2 00	4		1	N L Clarke.
Oakland	Newton	Moore's Mill	B W Rainer	2	2		1		1	14	17		31	12	1 20	3		2	W P Vaughn.
Old Union	Scott	Steele	A W Petty, Joe Rushing	4						23	32		55	25	2 50	1	2		T I Wells.
Pleasant Hill	Newton	Conehatta	A J Small, J P Pace	1	1		2		1	9	22		31	15	1 50	2		1	J W Arnold.
Pinkney	Newton	Stamper	J W Arnold, C C Roebuck	3	3	1			2	48	79		127	40	4 00	1			J E Chapman.
Poplar Springs	Newton	Newton	H W Williams, A M Harris, A J Rainer, W Yarbrough	10	2		4		1	20	25		45	25	2 50	4		1	H Bruce.
Prairi Concord	Newton	Newton	N C Weed, G C Fore	6	5		5		1	51	116		167	35	3 50	2	1	3	Wm Yarbrough.
Pine Bluff	Newton	Newton	A P Wash, W Burt	3	3		3			10	18		28	10	1 00	4			W J Bruner.
Pine Ridge	Newton	Lake	N H Monroe	7	3		2		1	20	31		51	25	2 50	1			Wm Yarbrough.
Poplar	Newton	Cooksey	S D Reeves	5	4		2	2	1	11	32		43	10	1 00	2			E W Sumrall.
Randall Hill	Jasper	Baxter	T E Wilson, W S Wedgeworth	1	3					12	17		29	20	2 00	4			J W Arnold.
Rock Branch	Newton	Union	W F Nicholson	5	1		6		2	14	21	1	36	15	1 50	4			Wm Yarbrough.
Salem	Scott	Gail	W R Graham	13	3		3		1	27	39		66	25	2 50	3	1	1	R K Cleaveland.
Sulph'r Springs	Scott	Hays	R N McDill	1	4					14	22		36	15	1 50	3			J H Grundy.
Sand Springs	Newton	Hickory	C C Bradley				10	2	3	26	35	3	64	25	2 50	3			J W Arnold.
Sardis	Scott	Sebastopol	— — Eason	6	8		3		1	33	31		64	20	2 00	1			H Bruce.
Union	Newton	Union	J M Moore, L S James	23	3					18	31		49	15	1 50	1			J A Johnston.
Union	Scott	Harpersville	J C Rushing, R M Beasley	4		1	4	1	1	27	23		50	25	2 60	1		1	J M Moore.
Woodland	Neshoba	Waldo	By verbal request	10	3		1	1		17	27		44	15	2 50	4			J H Grundy.
										11	10		21	15	1 00				R M Woodruff.
Total				160	144	12	130	23	42	1053	1610	22	2776		100 70		9	21	

NOTE—Bethany Church, Home Missions, $2.00; Indian, $2.15. Ebenezer, Neshoba county, Missions, $3.00. Good Hope, Scott county, Missions, 35 cts. Salem, Missions, $6.90.

J. A. Johnston
J. A. Grafton
~~J. J. M.~~
B. F. Lewis
J. H. Saturfield
S. A. Gordon

Mt.

N. L. C
JAS. E.
J. E. GR